

Sallal Water Association Water Conservation Policy – At a Glance

1. Purpose

- Encourage water conservation to balance system demand with available supply.
 - Protect natural resources, support environmental health, and reduce member water costs.
 - Achieved primarily through **education**, with tools to reduce usage when necessary.
 - Policy components:
 - **Promoting Conservation** – long-term member responsibilities.
 - **Water Shortage Response Plan** – short-term strategies during supply shortages or emergencies.
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2. Association Rights

- Manage water usage within the Water Service Area.
 - Implement public education programs and water efficiency goals.
 - Develop and share **best management practices** for water conservation.
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3. Water Conservation Program

- Includes **public education** and **member notification**.
 - Measures may include:
 - Publishing voluntary conservation actions and newsletters.
 - Including usage history on bills.
 - Evaluating rate structures, including inclining block rates for irrigation.
 - Offering rebates for WaterSense or other efficient devices.
 - Advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) for real-time usage data.
 - Leak notifications for significant increases in usage.
 - Water Conservation Task Force to monitor usage and recommend conservation stages.
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4. Wasteful Water Use

Wasteful use includes:

- Excessive irrigation or runoff onto impervious surfaces.
 - Leaks not repaired after notification.
 - Maintaining ponds, pools, or water features without recirculation or with leaks.
 - Draining/refilling pools, ponds, or lakes unnecessarily.
 - Irrigation during rain.
 - Using potable water for construction without approval.
 - Installing non-recirculating systems in new commercial car washes/laundries.
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5. Water Conservation Stages

Stage 0 (Basic, always in effect):

- Only beneficial uses allowed; all waste prohibited.

Stage 1 (Production exceeds capacity by 5–9.9%):

- Stage 0 rules remain.
- Irrigation (except drip/soaker) limited to **3 days/week** using odd-even schedule.
- Vegetable/flower gardens may be watered any day.
- No washing of streets, driveways, or landscaping unless required for health/fire protection.
- Construction water requires Superintendent approval.

Stage 2 (Production exceeds capacity by >10%):

- Stage 1 rules remain.
 - Irrigation limited to **2 days/week** using odd-even schedule.
 - Draining/refilling pools, decorative ponds, or fountains prohibited except for health, fish, or vegetation needs.
 - New landscaping must be drought-tolerant; no new turf.
 - Car washing must use recycled/reclaimed water at commercial facilities.
 - Leaks must be repaired within **24 hours**, or service may be shut off.
 - Sewer, hydrant, and fire system flushing restricted to emergencies/maintenance.
 - Construction water only for essential purposes approved by Superintendent.
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6. New Construction Requirements

- Water for construction must be:
 - Metered with a **construction water meter**.
 - Approved by the Superintendent with a refundable deposit.
 - Used according to conditions (rate, purpose, location).
 - Landscape irrigation must use **drip systems**.
 - New landscaping must be **drought tolerant**.
 - Multi-family, commercial, or industrial properties must have **separate domestic and irrigation meters**.
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7. Irrigation System Inspections

- Required annually before May 1 for:
 - Parcels >1 acre, or irrigation-only meters.
 - Conducted by **Certified Irrigation Auditor or licensed contractor**.
 - Single-family residences exempt unless wasteful water use is identified.
 - One courtesy warning if a current inspection is on file before violation enforcement.
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8. Unauthorized Connections

- Unauthorized water connections are **terminated immediately**, and penalties applied.
 - Unauthorized use of fire hydrants (except fire flows or approved construction) is penalized.
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9. Enforcement & Penalties

- Superintendent enforces the policy.
- Goal: **voluntary compliance** via education, notices, and warnings.
- Escalating penalties for repeated violations:

Occurrence	Notice/Penalty
1st	Personal/written notice
2nd	Written notice + \$25/day
3rd	\$50/day

- Stage 1 or 2 violations not corrected within 5 days may require installation of **irrigation meter** at owner's cost.

- Each day of continued violation is a separate offense.

Appeals:

- Appeals to the Board within **14 days** with \$35 fee.
 - Board decision usually within **30 days**; final and non-appealable.
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10. Remedies

- Policy remedies are **cumulative**; pursuing one does not prevent pursuing others.
 - Enforcement may include any remedy allowed under Bylaws, Rules, Regulations, or law.
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11. Variances

- Granted for **extraordinary circumstances** that could cause hardship or impact public recreation/economic activities.
- **Superintendent:** Variances up to **10 days** during any conservation stage.
- **Board:** Written requests can be approved; variance allows **minimum additional water necessary**.
- Variances expire after **1 year**; may be renewed.
- Variances **not granted for new landscaping**.